

Shutesbury Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

4:00, Zoom

Meeting begun: 4:01

Present: Sam Spisiak, cochair, Ann Brigham, Christine Marglin (taking minutes), BZ Reily, Christine Robinson

Guest: Susie Mosher

Absent: Barbara Bigelow, Elaine Puleo

Minutes from a June 25 meeting approved

Agenda:

1. Update on Night Sky
2. Family Field Day - finalize plans
3. Money to library for classes
4. Town-wide birthday party
5. Soccer
6. Ideas for FY 2025
7. Other

(Detailed agenda at end of minutes)

Christine R reporting on night sky event: no one arrived to assist from our committee and only two others showed up; none of those who had signed up to attend arrived on the rain date. This may have been an issue of having too many of these night sky programs in quick succession, or an end of summer glitch.

Family Field Day: Mr. Carra is too busy to do field day in September, Sam isn't sure October is worth waiting on, when he is only a maybe. Library is doing Good Neighbor Day on Saturday, September 28 with music, maybe a food truck, craft activity for kids, pot luck desserts. Looking for set up, clean up, people to bring desserts, and for a financial contribution of \$100. This is part of a national endeavor. We could bring our own soccer equipment. We are all in favor.

Money to library for classes: \$1000 for activities and classes. All in favor.

Susie Mosher: town wide birthday party. Last year about 85 people came. About 250 invitations will be sent for decade birthdays, people over 80, babies born this year, and people new to town. Last year cupcakes and ice cream, beverages, someone brought pins they'd made to hand out. Planning to use the whole common this year. People want to bring hula hoops, maybe have a line dance, drumming. COA is donating \$100, the LOL have about \$100, they have asked the library

to cosponsor and are asking us. Sunday, Oct 6 from 3 to 5. All in favor of cosponsoring and donating \$100.

Soccer: Sean has not made it to the meeting. Sam would like it to happen. She will try to reach Sean. She hoping for an informal Sunday morning soccer get together for kids. She will try to organize it and invite the town families. Beginning September 29. Preschool to third grade perhaps. Sam will make a flyer and advertise.

Ideas for new year:

Bright Water Bog hike, part of a series of 4 seasonal walks
Colleen Kelly would be good, BZ will ask her for a day in Oct or Nov.

Rocks of Shutesbury: good winter walk before it gets icy

Birding again in spring with Clif; maybe April
Kite festival: maybe in May, Sam will arrange.

Meeting adjourned: 4:43
Next meeting: Tuesday, September 24 at 4.

Detailed agenda:

1. Update on the Night Sky (Christine R.)

2. Family Field Day – Steven Carra has very limited availability this fall. He said he could look into dates later in the year but seemed like this year it would not be the best fit for him. If we proceed we need...

a. Tasks we need people to sign up for (and clearly if we don't have a date yet then these are not hard commitments but we need to be prepared ... You can put me down for any Saturday in September or early October):

i. Buying food (oranges and cookies) and water ... anything else

ii. If parents are there, could Andy be persuaded to set up his coffee?

iii. Ask if people are willing to help on the day of setting up the tents and providing bowls for oranges and other food.

iv. Being there day of to welcome kids and their families

-Alternative to Family Field Day (See Email below): The library is hosting Good Neighbor Day and looking for Committees to Collaborate. They are in need of \$100 towards music. A few contributions of desserts. A flyer about any upcoming programs. A couple volunteers to come and schmooze

Vote for Family Field Day or Be a Good Neighbor Day

3. Money to library

- a. We have given money to the library the last two years to help support exercise programs. Last year we gave \$1000 at the beginning of the year.
 - i. FYI we have plenty of money. Unless we add a lot of new programs we will likely have extra money.
- b. How do people feel about doing this again?
- c. This action will require a vote.

4. Town wide birthday party (see next page for text of Susie Moser's email)

- a. Last year helped with promotion and Barbara went to help with some of the set-up. We did not give money.
- b. Do we want to support this and if so how ... promotion only or promotion plus some financial support.
- c. See next page for text of email from Susie.
- d. The action will require a vote.

5. Soccer

- a. We have ordered balls, nets, pinnies and cones.
- b. Rec Committee will not oversee this but will provide promotion and (obviously) the balls etc.
- c. Sean will be attending the meeting to discuss his thoughts

6. Begin to brainstorm ideas for programming for coming year. Two ideas that have surfaced:

- a. Two walks at Brightwater Bog – one this fall and one in the spring
- b. Rocks of Shutesbury (very entertaining geologist)
- c. Popular repeats of this year ...
 - i. Night Sky
 - ii. Bird watching/identification

The Laughing Old Ladies have decided to make it happen again. Remember last year's Town Wide

Decades Birthday Party? About 85 people of all ages attended, we had cupcakes and ice cream, people

could choose a pin that was donated by local artists, and people new to Shutesbury got a chance to

mingle and laugh. The town buildings committee had an information table an idea we want to expand

on.

We are reviewing last year's notes and will make some improvements. So far we have picked Sunday,

October 6, 2024, from 3-5 pm on the town common. Would you consider co-sponsoring this event again? Last year our expenses for printing, mailing, cider, and ice cream ingredients came to \$327. Whatever funds you can donate would be greatly appreciated. If you came last year and have suggestions, we appreciate them too. Getting together, meeting new people and laughing is our goal. We hope you will let us know soon if you will join us in this effort.

Sincerely,
Susie Mosher